

§ 3554.4-4 Decision on plan and participation.

The authorized officer may issue the license naming participants and acreage covered, establishing core hole spacing and resolving any other issue necessary to minimize surface disturbance and inconsistencies between proposed exploration plans.

§ 3554.5 Submission of data.

The licensee must furnish to BLM copies of all data obtained during exploration. If part 2 of this title requires any such data to be held confidential, BLM will not make it public.

[63 FR 52954, Oct. 1, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 52954, Oct. 1, 1998, § 3554.5 was revised, effective Nov. 2, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§ 3554.5 Submission of data.

The licensee shall furnish the authorized officer copies of all data obtained during exploration. All data shall be considered confidential and not made public until the areas involved have been leased or until the authorized officer determines that the data are not exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, whichever occurs first.

§ 3554.6 Modification of exploration plan.

Upon application by the participants, a modification of the exploration plan may be approved by the authorized officer.

Subpart 3555—Competitive Leasing

§ 3555.1 Lands subject only to competitive leasing.

Lands available for leasing that have surface and/or subsurface evidence to reasonably assure the existence of a valuable deposit of "Gilsonite" may be leased only through competitive sale to the qualified bidder who offers the highest acceptable bonus bid, except as provided in subparts 3508 and 3556 of this title. A competitive lease sale may be initiated either through an expression of interest or on Bureau motion.

§ 3555.2 Surface management agency.

Prior to competitive lease offering, the surface management agency shall be consulted in accordance with § 3500.9 and part 3580 of this title, as applicable.

§ 3555.3 Sale procedures.

§ 3555.3-1 Publication and posting of notice.

Prior to a lease offering, the authorized officer shall publish a notice of lease sale for at least 3 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the area in which the lands are situated. The notice of lease sale shall be posted for 30 days in the public room of the proper BLM office.

§ 3555.3-2 Contents of notice.

The lease sale notice shall include:

- (a) The time and place of sale;
- (b) The bidding method;
- (c) A description of the tract being offered;
- (d) A description of the "Gilsonite" deposit being offered;
- (e) The minimum bid to be considered; and
- (f) Information on where a detailed statement of the terms and conditions of the lease sale and of the proposed lease may be obtained.

§ 3555.3-3 Detailed statement.

The authorized officer shall also prepare and make available a detailed statement of sale containing:

- (a) The proposed lease on a form approved by the Director with terms and conditions including the rental, royalty rates, bond amount, and special stipulations;
- (b) An explanation of the manner in which bids may be submitted;
- (c) A notice that each bid shall be accompanied by the bidder's qualifications (See part 3502) and one-fifth of the amount bid;
- (d) A notice that the successful bidder(s) shall be required, prior to lease issuance, to pay its proportionate share of the total cost of the publication of the sale notice;
- (e) A warning to all bidders concerning 18 U.S.C. 1860 which prohibits unlawful combination or intimidation of bidders;